

CEDAR FIRE FEE WAIVER

The following are answers to frequently asked questions about the City's Fee Waiver for homes destroyed in the Cedar Fire. Permitting is processed through the City's Development Services Department. The Development Services Department is providing staff assistance for fire survivors at the Scripps Ranch Local Assistance Center, 11454 Blue Cypress Drive, through the end of December.

1) Q: If I rebuild the same size house, are all fees waived?

A: Reconstruction of the same or substantially the same structure will not be charged any Building Permit fees.

2) Q: What if I increase the size of my home?

A: Increases in square footage of 500 square feet or more to the size of the destroyed structure will require payment of plan check and permit fees for the incremental increase in square footage.

3) Q: What about non-City fees?

A: School fees are not required for replacement of existing or destroyed structures. Increases in square footage of 500 square feet or more to the size of the destroyed structure will be required to pay school fees for the incremental increase in square footage.

San Diego County Water Authority water capacity charges are only required if you increase the size of your existing water meter or add an additional meter.

4) Q: How do I know if additional fees will be required?

A: For all properties affected by the Cedar Fire, fees will not be charged at submittal. Staff will determine if any fees are required during plan check. Any fees determined to be required will be paid at permit issuance.

5) Q: What about fees for other types of permits?

A: Fees for other City permits required to reconstruct properties damaged by the Cedar Fire will also be waived. These include Demolition Permits, Right-of-Way Permits to repair damage in the Public Right-of-Way, Electrical Permits for temporary power service, Building Permits for destroyed accessory structures such as gazebos, decks, retaining walls, etc. If a Discretionary Permit is required, those fees will not be waived. Please call us if you have questions about whether a Discretionary Permit is required or not. It is unlikely that you will need a Discretionary Permit if what you plan to build substantially conforms to your original structure.

6) Q: If I sell my lot, does the fee waiver apply to the new owner?

A: Yes, the fee wavier is for the structures destroyed or damaged by the fire and will apply to current or future owners.

7) Q: Is there any time limit for when I need to apply for permits to have the fees waived?

A: Building Permits to reconstruct structures lost in the fires must be submitted on or before November 1, 2007, (four years) to qualify for the fee waiver.

8) Q: Will fees be waived if I decide to grade my property and a grading permit is required?

A: Any grading that would require a Grading Permit (for example: cut or fill over 5 feet) would be considered a substantial change and would not qualify for the fee wavier.

For additional information, contact Development Services staff members working at the Scripps Ranch Local Assistance Center at (858) 790-0129 or (858) 790-0130.

Additional information is provided on the City's web page at www.sandiego.gov.